

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
PROPOSED REGULATIONS - BOVINE TRICHOMONOSIS

The Department of Food and Agriculture, Animal Health Branch, is proposing changes to Chapter 2, Division 2, of Title 3 of the California Code of Regulations, to read as follows:

1) Add new Article 12 to Chapter 2, Division 2, to read as follows:

Article 12. Bovine Trichomonosis Control Program

2) Add new sections 820 through 820.9 under new Article 12, Chapter 2, Division 2, to read as follows:

Section 820. Definitions

(a) “Trichomonosis” means a sexually transmitted disease of cattle caused by the protozoan parasite *Tritrichomonas fetus*.

(b) “USDA” means the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services.

(c) “Certificate of Veterinary Inspection” means a numbered interstate health certificate or a similar titled document that is a record of veterinary health inspection of one or more animals, issued on an official form by a USDA accredited and state licensed veterinarian from the state of origin. The Certificate of Veterinary Inspection is valid for 30 days following the inspection of the animals described on the certificate.

(d) “Trichomonosis approved laboratory” means a laboratory approved by the Department for diagnosing bovine trichomonosis.

(e) “Trichomonosis approved veterinarian” means a USDA accredited veterinarian, licensed by the State of California to practice veterinary medicine, and who has successfully completed a training program approved by the Department for the sampling and handling of specimens for the diagnosis of trichomonosis.

(f) “Trichomonosis test” means a test for the detection of active infection with *Tritrichomonas fetus* from a specimen collected by a USDA accredited veterinarian.

(g) “Official trichomonosis test” means a test for the detection of active infection with *Tritrichomonas fetus* from a specimen collected by a trichomonosis approved veterinarian and conducted at a trichomonosis approved laboratory. Official

trichomonosis test results must be recorded on forms approved by the Department for that purpose.

(h) “Official trichomonosis confirmatory test” means a test conducted by a laboratory approved by the Department for the confirmation of positive official trichomonosis tests.

(i) “Specimen” means a sampling taken from the preputial content of a bull, or the uterine content of a bovine female, by a USDA accredited veterinarian.

(j) “Herd” means a group of cattle, under common ownership or supervision that is kept, fed and grouped together.

(k) “Official individual identification” means an official eartag, tattoo, or other means of identification approved by the Department that permanently provides unique identification of an individual animal.

(l) “Herd of origin” means the herd in which a bovine animal most recently had the opportunity for sexual contact at anytime within the last twelve months.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 407 and 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

Reference: Sections 9562, 9166, 9167, 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

Section 820.1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.

(a) A Certificate of Veterinary Inspection shall include all of the following:

(1) Description of the animals;

(2) Official individual identification;

(3) Trichomonosis test date(s) and results;

(4) Complete information on the consignor, consignee, origin, and destination; purpose of the movement;

(5) Veterinarian’s certification that the animals meet the trichomonosis testing requirements as specified in section 820.2; and,

(6) Signed by the USDA accredited and state licensed veterinarian who examined the animals in the shipment.

(b) A copy of a trichomonosis test record with a description of each animal, its official individual identification number, and trichomonosis test results may be attached

to each copy of the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection instead of transferring that information onto the certificate.

(c) The Certificate of Veterinary Inspection shall accompany each load or part of a shipment entering California where required and be available, with attachments, for examination en route and after arrival in California.

(d) A copy of the completed Certificate of Veterinary Inspection shall be mailed to the Department within 15 days of examination to the following address: Department of Food and Agriculture, Animal Health Branch, 1220 "N" Street, Room A-107, Sacramento, California 95814.

(e) The examining state licensed and accredited veterinarian shall indicate on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection that each animal in the shipment meets California entry requirements.

(f) The Department may require a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection for animals entering California because of a disease condition in another state, even though the animals may be exempt from obtaining a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection under this article.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 407 and 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.
Reference: Sections 9562, 9166, 9167, 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

Section 820.2. Requirements for Entry of Bulls into California.

(a) Bulls over 18 months of age shall have all of the following:

(1) Official individual identification;

(2) Negative trichomonosis test results on a specimen collected after 10 days without contact with sexually mature female cattle, and within 30 days prior to entry into California; and,

(3) A Certificate of Veterinary Inspection which states that the bull has been tested for and found to be negative for trichomonosis pursuant to subsection (a)(2) above, and that trichomonosis has not been diagnosed in the herd of origin within the past 24 months.

(b) Any bull originating from a herd in which trichomonosis has been diagnosed within the past 24 months shall have all of the following:

(1) Three (3) consecutive negative trichomonosis tests conducted at least seven (7) days apart, but not more than 28 days apart, with the last test conducted within 30 days prior to entry; and

(2) A Certificate of Veterinary Inspection which states that the requirements set forth in subsection (b)(1) above have been met.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 407 and 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.
Reference: Sections 9562, 9166, 9167, 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

Section 820.3. Exemptions.

(a) Bulls may be exempt from the trichomonosis test requirements for entry into California under any one or all of the following conditions:

(1) Used solely for exhibition purposes and remains under confinement at the location of the exhibition without having access to or allowed to commingle with sexually mature female cattle; or

(2) Entered California as part of a herd for pasture or grazing purposes to a premises under the control of the owner of the herd and returning to the herd of origin, and without commingling with other cattle; or

(3) Used solely for artificial insemination; or

(4) Consigned directly to slaughter without unloading prior to the arrival at slaughter plant.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 407 and 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.
Reference: Sections 9562, 9166, 9167, 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

Section 820.4. Sale of Bulls within California.

(a) Bulls entering California for sale purposes must meet the requirements as specified in section 820.2.

(b) Bulls in California over 20 months of age sold in California as “trichomonosis-negative” must be accompanied by a negative official trichomonosis test record. The official trichomonosis test must be conducted on a specimen collected after a period of

10 days without contact with sexually mature female cattle, and within 30 days prior to the sale.

(c) Public saleyards shall post a sign or notice at least 11" x 14" in a prominent place containing the following statement: "Any buyer of a bull not accompanied by a negative official test record for trichomonosis should assume the bull to be an infected carrier of trichomonosis" or post a sign as provided by the Department.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 407 and 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

Reference: Sections 9562, 9166, 9167, 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

Section 820.5. Approval for Testing and Diagnosis.

(a) USDA accredited California licensed veterinarians must successfully complete a training program approved by the Department for the official sampling and handling of the specimens used in the diagnosis of trichomonosis before conducting any official sampling.

(b) Any testing, reading or diagnosing of official trichomonosis samples must be performed in an approved laboratory under the direction of a person approved by the Department to perform such activities.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 407 and 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

Reference: Sections 9562, 9166, 9167, 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

Section 820.6. Notification and Reporting of Positive Test Results.

(a) Trichomonosis is a reportable disease that must be reported to the Department within two days of discovery as specified on the List of Reportable Conditions for Animals and Animal Products pursuant to section 9101 of the Food and Agricultural Code.

(b) Specimens from any presumptive positive test results shall be forwarded to a trichomonosis approved laboratory for an official confirmatory test.

(c) Trichomonosis approved laboratories shall report all positive official confirmatory test results to the Department and to the referring veterinarian within two working days of the final confirmation of *Tritrichomonas fetus*.

(d) The Department will conduct an epidemiological evaluation to identify potentially exposed cattle and will notify the owner(s) by verbal or written communication of any potentially exposed cattle.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 407 and 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

Reference: Sections 9562, 9166, 9167, 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

Section 820.7. Disposition of Positive and Infected Cattle.

(a) The State Veterinarian shall impose a quarantine pursuant to Food and Agricultural Code section 9562 and serve a Notice of Required Action pursuant to section 1301.1 of Title 3 of the California Code of Regulations on the owner(s) to hold infected cattle on the premises where found. Any movement of infected cattle shall only be allowed by the issuance of a Notice of Required Action.

(b) If infected cattle are to be slaughtered, written confirmation of the slaughter is required.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 407 and 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

Reference: Sections 9562, 9166, 9167, 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

Section 820.8. Cattle Health Advisory Committee.

(a) The bovine trichomonosis control program shall be reviewed on an annual basis by the Department's Cattle Health Advisory Committee.

(b) The Cattle Health Advisory Committee will advise the Department on administrative aspects of the program, on the effectiveness of its disease control requirements, and in the enforcement of this article.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 407 and 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

Reference: Sections 9562, 9166, 9167, 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

Section 820.9. Violations

(a) Failure to comply with the provisions of this Article or Food and Agricultural Code section 10610 constitutes a violation punishable by a fine up to five hundred dollars (\$500) for each violation.

(b) The Department may additionally act consistent with any other existing enforcement authority concurrently or at a later date unless otherwise prohibited. Existing remedies include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Denial, suspension, or revocation of a license, registration, certificate, permit, exception, or other indicia of authority issued by the Department;

(2) Civil or administrative penalties;

(3) Referral to the appropriate District Attorney or the Attorney General for criminal prosecution or other appropriate remedy; and,

(4) Reimbursement to the Department for any costs incurred due to any violation of this article or Food and Agricultural Code section 10610.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 407 and 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

Reference: Sections 9562, 9166, 9167, 10610, Food and Agricultural Code.

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